

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/921,903

Applicant(s)

AZUMA, TOMIHIKO

Examiner

Thomas A. Beach

Art Unit

3671

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 09/06/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 8.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

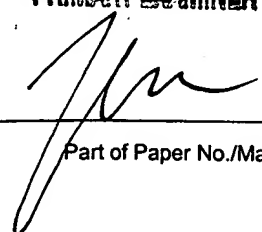
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

THOMAS A. BEACH
PRIMARY EXAMINER



DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 directed to Inventions II & III non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 have been cancelled.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record fails to show an apparatus having the details, as set forth in claims. U.S. Patent No. 6,807,530 to Shub et al. and of U.S. Patent No. 6,748,366 to Hurwitz et al. and U.S. Patent 6,697,843 to Carlin et al, all fail to show the seven means of the sales and delivery support system facilitating anonymous transactions with a purchaser terminal used by a purchaser, a plurality of seller terminals used by a seller, and a plurality of agent terminals used by an agent where the terminals communicate via a network. The prior art of records fails to show the terminals being capable of mutual communication via a communication network; with a first means in which, in response to a direct access made by said purchaser terminal to at least a first and a second seller terminal among said plurality of seller terminals, said seller terminal, said first and second seller terminals terminal each send sends directly to said purchaser terminal both (1) product information with respect to a plurality of products sold by said first and second sellers respectively and (2) delivery agent information with respect to said a-

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plurality of delivery agents, each of which is able to deliver said plurality of products to said purchaser; a second means in which each of said first and second seller terminals both (1) receives from said purchaser terminal information regarding a purchase order of at least one product of said corresponding plurality of products and a same single selected delivery agent of said plurality of delivery agents and (2) generates purchase order identification information that identifies said purchaser and said purchase order; a third means in which said seller terminal sends said purchase order identification information to both said purchaser terminal and a corresponding selected delivery agent terminal of said single selected delivery agent; a fourth means in which, in response to a direct access made by said purchaser terminal to said corresponding selected delivery agent terminal, said corresponding selected delivery agent terminal sends to said purchaser terminal a request to transmit at least one piece of purchase order identification information; a fifth means in which said corresponding selected delivery agent terminal both (1) receives from said purchaser terminal said-at least one piece of purchase order identification information from each of said first and second seller terminals and (2) compares said at-least one piece of purchase order identification information with purchase order identification information that said corresponding selected delivery agent terminal has received from said first and second seller terminals; a sixth means in which, if said comparison results in at least two matches one match, said corresponding selected delivery agent terminal sends to said purchaser terminal a request to transmit delivery instruction information regarding delivery of products corresponding to said at least two matches one match; a seventh means in

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which said corresponding selected delivery agent terminal receives from said purchaser terminal delivery instruction information instructing batch delivery of at least two of said products corresponding to said at least two matches one match, wherein said at least two of said products corresponding to said at least two matches one match are purchased from said first and second sellers plurality of sellers and wherein said batch delivery is to be delivered by said single-selected delivery agent to said purchaser at a single time.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Beach whose telephone number is 571.272.6988. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Will can be reached on 571.272.6998. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571.273.8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thomas A. Beach



August 06, 2006

THOMAS A. BEACH
Primary Examiner
Group 3600